(a) whether it is a fact that scientists from the Indian Cardamom Research Institute have been leaving the Institute due to disparity in salary with other institutes, like ICAR and CSIR;

(b) if so, the details of the scientists who left the institute during last three years and the reasons of retaining such disparity; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the last three years two Scientists had resigned from the ICRI/Board. One Scientist resigned to join the University of Agricultural Science. Bangalore as Assistant Professor while a Junior Scientist resigned on personal ground. The pay scales of the scientists of ICRI and research institutes of other Commodity Boards are the same. However, the scientists in the Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICRI) are drawing lower Grade Pay compared to that of scientists in the ICAR and CSIR institutions.

(c) The Government decides such issues from time to time on the basis of qualifications and experience as per the Recruitment Rules of respective Organization.

Under performance by Spices Board

1180. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was serious under performance by the Spices Board in terms of Tenth Plan Targets and utilization of outlays;

(b) if so, details of Board's performance against Plan targets;

(c) what were the reasons of such under performance by the Board; and

(d) what steps are being taken to offset such under performance in Eleventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. There was no under performance by Spices Board during X Plan. Spices Board was allotted an amount of Rs. 137 crores during X plan period which was fully utilized.

(b) Scheme-wise financial outlay and expenditure during X Plan period is as follows:

X plan – name of the scheme	Budget allocations (Rs. Crores)	Actual expenditure (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3
Export oriented production	76.36	76.18
Export development and production	35.17	35.64
Export oriented research	14.03	13.38

1	2	3
Quality improvement	10.60	10.71
Human resource development & works	1.04	1.09
Total (X Plan period)	137.20	137.00

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Spices exported through Spice Board

1181. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many spices are exported through Spice Board;

(b) whether it is a fact that cultivation, harvesting and production of most of the spices is not under the preview of the Spice Board;

(c) whether it has been observed that such multiplicity of agencies/Departments has had an adverse effect in cultivation and production of such spices; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to streamline the institutional arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Spices Board is an export promotion organization and not directly involved in the export business of spices. Presently about 185 different items of spices in whole and processed form are exported from India.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per the Spices Board Act, production development of cardamom (small & large) is vested with Spices Board. Production development of spices other than cardamom is the responsibility of Union Ministry of Agriculture and concerned State Government.

(c) and (d) Since production development of spices falls within the mandate of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and State Governments and the export promotion is the responsibility of the Spices Board, concerted efforts are required for coordinating the overall performance of the sector. The Board is interacting with various research institutions such as state Agriculture Universities, National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science & Technology, Indian Institute of Spices Research etc. Spices Board is also extending its activities in coordination with National Horticulture Mission/State Horticulture Mission, Directorate of Arecanut and Spices for development of identified spices based on specific projects/proposals.

Decline in Exports from India

1182. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of exports of India during the last three years, month-wise, sector-wise;